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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau

25X1C EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

25X1C DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 26 December 1950

25X1A REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - sketch on ditto (2 pages)

REMARKS

25X1X
SOURCE

25X1

1. On 12 and 20 November 1950, the Rosslau-Meinsdorf (M 52/E 17) billeting area of the former German 51st Engr Bn was occupied by about 1,000 Soviet engineer troops and the billeting area of the former German Engr Instruction Bn by about 600 Soviet engineer troops. Engineer equipment, including pon-
toons, pile drivers, motor vehicles with hoisting gear, motorboats, small
amphibious vehicles, and pneumatic boats, were observed in the billeting area
and with troops practicing on the Elbe River. Motor vehicles
were observed entering through the gate of
the engineer billeting areas.

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2. The billeting area of the former German 60th Engr Bn was occupied by about 1,000 Soviet tank troops and the buildings of the former German Engineer School by about 1,500 Soviet tank troops. The tank unit was almost exclusively equipped with T-34/85 tanks which were frequently seen leaving the billeting area or engaged in field exercises. Motor vehicles
were seen
moving through gate 2 of the tank troops' billeting area.

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3. The headquarters, apparently of the tank and engineer troops, was located in about the center of the billeting area. The equipment sheds along the loading ramp in the northern corner of the troop camp were occupied by about 180 troops. All units in the camp were engaged in interior duty, including cleaning and maintenance work on vehicles and tanks. Only in a few cases were small groups of soldiers observed engaged in infantry drill. *

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4. On 11 November, nine officers and 120 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, were seen marching to Meinsdorf and turning into the first gate on Luckower Strasse. The personnel had arrived aboard a train from Wittenberg and had left the train in Rosslau. **

5. During the evening hours of 12 November, almost all windows of the Meinsdorf barracks installation were lighted. The following day, several trucks, each carrying 12 to 15 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and artillery insignia and towing artillery pieces of about 100 mm were observed driving from the gate on Luckower Strasse toward the Elbe River meadows. *

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6. The bakery in the industrial harbor of Rosslau was baking 2,800 to 3,200 loaves of bread daily, which were delivered to the Meinsdorf barracks installation, the officers' settlement, and the Alten airfield. The bakery was run by Soviet officer Beyenkov, (fnu), (phonetic spelling), and employed 8 Soviet and 3 German bakers besides some auxiliary personnel. ~~***~~

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* Comment. The report confirms the Rossau-Meinsdorf barracks installation as having been occupied by elements of the 7th Gds Tank Div and engineer units of the GDFG, namely the 36th Pon Bridge Regt, until 20 November. It indicates that all units were in their billets by 12 November. For sketch of the installation, see Annex.

** Comment. Probably new replacements.

*** [redacted] Comment. According to the [redacted] 25X1
the Rossau-Weinsdorf barracks installation was occupied by about
3,000 troops. This figure agrees with a report of 14 January stating
that the installations quartered not less than 2,500 troops. See
[redacted]

1 Annex: One sketch on ditto.

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